

EX-AGENT SEES PERIL IN SPYING BY ARMY

CHICAGO, Dec. 18 (UPI)—A former Army intelligence agent, John O'Brien, said today he revealed that he had spied on prominent politicians because he believed "unknowing people" should be aware of what he called a "menace" to civil liberties.

The 26-year-old former staff sergeant asserted early this week that he and other Army agents had spied on 800 Illinois civilians, including Senator Adlai E. Stevenson 3d, Representative Abner J. Mikva and former Gov. Otto Kerner, all Democrats.

Secretary of the Army Stanley Resor denied yesterday that Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Mikva and Mr. Kerner had been spied upon.

In a news conference today, Mr. O'Brien said that he stood by all his statements. He said he had been ordered to spy "not only on Senator Stevenson but on many other civilians and civilian organizations."

"I was trying to make unknowing people aware of a menace that existed, and might still exist," Mr. O'Brien said today. He told reporters he believed domestic intelligence "violated the civil liberties of everyone in this room."